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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

25X1

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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. The Acumulatorul (storage battery) factory, under the jurisdiction of the Electrotechnical Department of the Ministry of Electrical Energy and Electrotechnical Industry, is the only factory of its kind in Rumania, and was created by the amalgamation of several small factories with the well-known Tudor factory. It is located at 105 Calea Dorobanti, Bucharest, but there are rumors that the factory is to be transferred to a new location farther from the frontier. It employs 70 clerks and 330 to 350 technical workers.

2. The factory produces only storage batteries, with the type designated as D.F., in sizes ranging from D.F. 1 to D.F. 10. The smallest, D.F. 1, is about 30 centimeters long, and the largest, D.F. 10, is about 1.2 meters long. Types D.F. 1 to D.F. 4, normally used by automobiles and buses, go only to Centrocommetal for distribution to the Ferometal stores.

3. Types D.F. 5 to D.F. 10 are made to order for special purposes and go to the following:

   a. CFR (Rumanian Railroads), which receives a large part of the production.

   b. MFA (Ministry of Armed Forces), which receives similar quantities. On the books of the factory the Ministry appears as the purchaser, but dispatch notices are made out to military units which are indicated by the letter U and a number. 25X1 25X1 it is not known where these units are stationed because representatives come to collect the batteries and a lieutenant is permanently stationed at the factory. The telephone numbers of units 25X1 belong to Bucharest. It is believed that the units 25X1 are ground troops attached to the Air Force because the factory has repeatedly sent mechanics to Air Force units which are likely to have been the ultimate customer. Mechanics were sent to Constanta and worked in the port itself in connection with their supplies.

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STATE	x	ARMY	x	NAVY	x	AIR			

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c. Energo-Constructia, a state building enterprise under the Ministry of Electrical Energy and Electrotechnical Industry which carries out structural work in some parts of Rumania. In 1951 Acumulatorul carried out a special order for Energo-Constructia valued at 15 million lei.

d. Ghelari Mines, near Hunedoara, where precious metals are apparently mined. An unknown number of large storage batteries was supplied.

e. Other customers, such as the Bucharest Airfield and hospital and the power station at Doicesti, which provides the whole Prahova valley with electricity.

4. The factory has the following departments:

a. Assembly. This has a methane gas furnace to melt the lead, and matrices for casting battery plates.

b. Section for chemical treating of plates. This consists of wooden tubs containing a solution in which the battery plates are cleaned. This had been done by hand, but recently an automatic machine copied from a foreign model was installed.

c. Paste section. A machine mixes the yellow paste, believed to be a mixture of powdered lead, sulphuric acid and other chemicals. The plates are covered with this paste.

d. Packing section. Plates and batteries are packed in wooden boxes.

e. Repair and reconstruction. This section repairs and rebuilds worn-out batteries.

f. Carpentry. This section makes boxes for shipping.

g. Maintenance of machinery. This section has 10 or 12 lathes, all old and of unknown make, and an unknown number of milling machines. It produces certain spare parts and repairs machinery.

h. Mechanical. This section makes hinges for battery containers.

i. Lead mill. Precise details are not known, but the process is approximately as follows: a metal mill breaks up lead plates into small pellets approximately 1 cm. in diameter, and a second mill transforms the pellets into small flakes for use in the yellow paste referred to above.

5. Lead for the factory is obtained from the Non-Ferrous Metals Works at Baia Mare, and in emergencies from DCA (Department for Collection and Acquisition), a state scrap collecting agency, whose supplies are of poor quality. The Baia Mare works stopped production for an unknown reason from January to March 1951, during which time Acumulatorul obtained supplies from DCA. About 40 tons of lead are used by the factory per month, at a total cost of 9 million lei in 1951.

6. Sulphuric acid is supplied by the Valea Calugareasca and the Campina sulphuric acid factories. Every three or four days a truck brings a load of 40 demijohns, each containing about 50 or 60 liters of acid. The value of such a load in 1951 was 50,000 lei.

7. Bakelite lids for the batteries are supplied by Uzinele Chimice Romane.

8. Timber is supplied by the IPEIL. The factory receives 10 tons per month, at a total value in 1951 of 500,000 lei.

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9. Glass containers come from factories at Medias and Tarnava[1]. In 1951 they were also imported in bulk from Czechoslovakia through Romanoimport, although there was no need. The containers were paid for in lei.

10. In 1950 the turnover of the factory was between 600 and 720 million lei, ordinary batteries accounting for only 60 million of this total. As the price of an ordinary battery in 1950 was about 2,000 lei, about 30,000 batteries must have been sold. The average price of a large battery is about 10,000 lei (varying according to size), and it may be estimated that approximately 50,000 to 70,000 must have been produced. No change in production took place in 1951, so it may be assumed that output remained approximately the same as in 1950.

11. The following personalities are known:

a. Erwin Cunes, production engineer at Acumulatorul. [redacted]

25X1 [redacted]

b. Constantin Ienica, chief engineer. [redacted]

25X1 [redacted]

c. Geza Lazar, general manager. [redacted]

25X1 [redacted]

d. Avram Rabinovici, chief accountant. [redacted]

25X1 [redacted]

e. Alexandru Radulescu, Lieutenant of MFA accepting the batteries at the factory. [redacted]

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25X1 [redacted] Comment: There are at least four localities in Rumania with the name Tarnava.

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